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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for monitoring for an early signaling event in an inflammatory response cascade in a patient comprising:

- a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with a CD163 capture antibody to form a CD163-antibody complex; and
- b) contacting the CD163-antibody complex with a CD163 detection antibody;
- c) detecting CD163 levels in the biological sample to monitor an early signaling event in the inflammatory response cascade in the patient.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the CD163 capture antibody is MAC2-158 or Mac2-48.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the biological sample is human plasma.

Claims 4-10 (canceled).